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NEWS

NMTBA
The Association For
Manufacturing Technology

FOR RELEASE: October 31, 1988
Contact: Charles Pollock

1988 MACHINE TOOL ORDERS UP 85.6%

Total machine tool orders for 1988 are up 85.6% compared to the same period in 1987, according to figures released today by NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. Through September, orders totaled $2,732.80 million. New machine tool orders for September reached $327.85 million, down 3.4% from August's $339.50 million but up 79.3% compared to September 1987.

At $2,057.75 million, year-to-date metal cutting machine tool orders are up 107.9% compared to 1987, while metal forming orders of $675.05 million are up 39.8% Metal cutting orders for the month of September 1988 stood at $266.50 million, up 1.9% compared to August, and metal forming orders fell to $61.35 million, down 21.3%. Comparing September 1988 to September 1987, metal cutting orders rose 111.3% and metal forming orders rose 8.1%.

James A. Gray, NMTBA president, said, "With total orders up 85.6%, 1988 is proving to be a significant swing year for the U.S. machine tool industry. American manufacturers are demonstrating what we have always known to be true. Given an even chance, they can and will compete -- in product, price, quality and service -- anywhere in the world."

He added, "We are especially encouraged by orders placed by foreign customers. Although highly volatile from one month to the next, for the first three quarters of 1988 they are almost 95% ahead of last year. Building on our strong international position, NMTBA's International Trade Department is pulling

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out all stops to increase export sales. The U.S. Government and U.S. manufacturers must continue to work together to see to it that international trade means international opportunity for American companies."

At $1,636.40 million, year-to-date total machine tool shipments were nearly level with 1987, down a scant 0.7%, with metal cutting shipments down 11.9% and metal forming shipments up 28.4%. Comparing August to September 1988, total machine tool shipments rose 47.5% to $227.10 million, with metal cutting up 43.4% and metal forming up 56.4%. Comparing September 1988 to September 1987, total shipments are up 13.3%, representing a metal cutting rise of 5.6% and a metal forming rise of 32.4%. The machine tool order backlog for September 1988 stood at $2,095.90 million, up from August's $1,995.15 million.

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COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
SEP 1988	253.00	13.50	266.50	51.65	9.70	61.35	304.65	23.20	327.85
AUG 1988	179.30	82.20	261.50	73.50	4.50	78.00	252.80	86.70	339.50
% CHANGE									
SEP 1988:AUG 1988	+41.1	-83.6	+1.9	-29.7	+115.6	-21.3	+20.5	-73.2	-3.4
SEP 1987	116.75	9.35	126.10	40.35	16.40	56.75	157.10	25.75	182.85
% CHANGE									
SEP 1988:SEP 1987	+116.7	+44.4	+111.3	+28.0	-40.9	+8.1	+93.9	-9.9	+79.3
YEAR TO DATE 1988	1,760.45	297.30	2,057.75	582.90	92.15	675.05	2,343.35	389.45	2,732.80
YEAR TO DATE 1987	886.75	103.20	989.95	385.50	97.25	482.75	1,272.25	200.45	1,472.70
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	+98.5	+188.1	+107.9	+51.2	-5.2	+39.8	+84.2	+94.3	+85.6

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
SEP 1988	133.55	17.60	151.15	65.70	10.25	75.95	199.25	27.85	227.10
AUG 1988	93.00	12.40	105.40	40.75	7.80	48.55	133.75	20.20	153.95
% CHANGE									
SEP 1988:AUG 1988	+43.6	+41.9	+43.4	+61.2	+31.4	+56.4	+49.0	+37.9	+47.5
SEP 1987	126.65	16.45	143.10	48.00	9.35	57.35	174.65	25.80	200.45
% CHANGE									
SEP 1988:SEP 1987	+5.4	+7.0	+5.6	+36.9	+9.6	+32.4	+14.1	+7.9	+13.3
YEAR TO DATE 1988	933.70	114.75	1,048.45	502.45	85.50	587.95	1,436.15	200.25	1,636.40
YEAR TO DATE 1987	1,061.80	127.70	1,189.50	392.20	65.85	458.05	1,454.00	193.55	1,647.55
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	-12.1	-10.1	-11.9	+28.1	+29.8	+28.4	-1.2	+3.5	-0.7

Source: NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,830.50	$ 288.30	$2,118.80	$ 999.50	$2,036.75	$ 286.90	$2,323.65
1988							
JAN	$ 266.05	$ 31.45	$ 297.50	$1,153.65	$ 125.65	$ 17.70	$ 143.35
FEB	$ 258.85	$ 39.20	$ 298.05	$1,285.25	$ 145.10	$ 21.35	$ 166.45
MAR	$ 222.05	$ 32.40	$ 254.45	$1,333.00	$ 185.75	$ 20.95	$ 206.70
APR	$ 193.45	$ 59.55	$ 253.00	$1,428.60	$ 133.90	$ 23.50	$ 157.40
MAY	$ 278.90	$ 45.80	$ 324.70	$1,573.60	$ 157.60	$ 22.10	$ 179.70
JUN	$ 345.25	$ 37.55	$ 382.80	$1,742.35	$ 185.25	$ 28.80	$ 214.05
JUL	$ 221.35	$ 33.60	$ 254.95	$1,809.60	$ 169.90	$ 17.80	$ 187.70
AUG	$ 252.80	$ 86.70	$ 339.50	$1,995.15	$ 133.75	$ 20.20	$ 153.95
SEP (P)	$ 304.65	$ 23.20	$ 327.85	$2,095.90	$ 199.25	$ 27.85	$ 227.10
9 MONTHS	$2,343.35	$ 389.45	$2,732.80		$1,436.15	$ 200.25	$1,636.40

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,949.10	$ 303.40	$2,252.50	$ 118.60	$ 15.10	$ 133.70
1988						
JAN	$ 268.95	$ 32.30	$ 301.25	$ 2.90	$ .85	$ 3.75
FEB	$ 265.15	$ 39.35	$ 304.50	$ 6.30	$ .15	$ 6.45
MAR	$ 227.55	$ 33.10	$ 260.65	$ 5.50	$ .70	$ 6.20
APR	$ 208.15	$ 62.00	$ 270.15	$ 14.70	$ 2.45	$ 17.15
MAY	$ 287.20	$ 46.10	$ 333.30	$ 8.30	$ .30	$ 8.60
JUN	$ 352.35	$ 38.95	$ 391.30	$ 7.10	$ 1.40	$ 8.50
JUL	$ 227.60	$ 34.10	$ 261.70	$ 6.25	$ .50	$ 6.75
AUG	$ 262.05	$ 88.05	$ 350.10	$ 9.25	$ 1.35	$ 10.60
SEP (P)	$ 314.30	$ 24.85	$ 339.15	$ 9.65	$ 1.65	$ 11.30
9 MONTHS	$2,413.30	$ 398.80	$2,812.10	$ 69.95	$ 9.35	$ 79.30

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,294.45	$ 157.00	$1,451.45	$ 672.20	$1,498.85	$ 177.65	$1,676.50
1988							
JAN	$ 205.75	$ 18.20	$ 223.95	$ 824.95	$ 61.60	$ 9.60	$ 71.20
FEB	$ 217.95	$ 32.45	$ 250.40	$ 966.45	$ 97.00	$ 11.90	$ 108.90
MAR	$ 174.15	$ 17.75	$ 191.90	$1,020.60	$ 123.95	$ 13.80	$ 137.75
APR	$ 146.45	$ 48.85	$ 195.30	$1,120.60	$ 82.20	$ 13.10	$ 95.30
MAY	$ 205.65	$ 37.20	$ 242.85	$1,252.20	$ 100.25	$ 11.00	$ 111.25
JUN	$ 210.65	$ 27.70	$ 238.35	$1,357.75	$ 116.00	$ 16.80	$ 132.80
JUL	$ 167.55	$ 19.45	$ 187.00	$1,410.05	$ 126.15	$ 8.55	$ 134.70
AUG	$ 179.30	$ 82.20	$ 261.50	$1,566.15	$ 93.00	$ 12.40	$ 105.40
SEP (P)	$ 253.00	$ 13.50	$ 266.50	$1,681.50	$ 133.55	$ 17.60	$ 151.15
9 MONTHS	$1,760.45	$ 297.30	$2,057.75		$ 933.70	$ 114.75	$1,048.45

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$1,365.85	$ 167.35	$1,533.20	$ 71.40	$ 10.35	$ 81.75
1988						
JAN	$ 207.35	$ 18.80	$ 226.15	$ 1.60	$ .60	$ 2.20
FEB	$ 221.05	$ 32.55	$ 253.60	$ 3.10	$ .10	$ 3.20
MAR	$ 178.10	$ 17.95	$ 196.05	$ 3.95	$ .20	$ 4.15
APR	$ 150.30	$ 50.50	$ 200.80	$ 3.85	$ 1.65	$ 5.50
MAY	$ 210.40	$ 37.45	$ 247.85	$ 4.75	$ .25	$ 5.00
JUN	$ 216.85	$ 29.00	$ 245.85	$ 6.20	$ 1.30	$ 7.50
JUL	$ 172.40	$ 19.70	$ 192.10	$ 4.85	$ .25	$ 5.10
AUG	$ 186.20	$ 83.15	$ 269.35	$ 6.90	$ .95	$ 7.85
SEP (P)	$ 260.50	$ 14.35	$ 274.85	$ 7.50	$ .85	$ 8.35
9 MONTHS	$1,803.15	$ 303.45	$2,106.60	$ 42.70	$ 6.15	$ 48.85

P - Preliminary
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$ 536.05	$ 131.30	$ 667.35	$ 327.30	$ 537.90	$ 109.25	$ 647.15
1988							
JAN	$ 60.30	$ 13.25	$ 73.55	$ 328.70	$ 64.05	$ 8.10	$ 72.15
FEB	$ 40.90	$ 6.75	$ 47.65	$ 318.80	$ 48.10	$ 9.45	$ 57.55
MAR	$ 47.90	$ 14.65	$ 62.55	$ 312.40	$ 61.80	$ 7.15	$ 68.95
APR	$ 47.00	$ 10.70	$ 57.70	$ 308.00	$ 51.70	$ 10.40	$ 62.10
MAY	$ 73.25	$ 8.60	$ 81.85	$ 321.40	$ 57.35	$ 11.10	$ 68.45
JUN	$ 134.60	$ 9.85	$ 144.45	$ 384.60	$ 69.25	$ 12.00	$ 81.25
JUL	$ 53.80	$ 14.15	$ 67.95	$ 399.55	$ 43.75	$ 9.25	$ 53.00
AUG	$ 73.50	$ 4.50	$ 78.00	$ 429.00	$ 40.75	$ 7.80	$ 48.55
SEP (P)	$ 51.65	$ 9.70	$ 61.35	$ 414.40	$ 65.70	$ 10.25	$ 75.95
9 MONTHS	$ 582.90	$ 92.15	$ 675.05		$ 502.45	$ 85.50	$ 587.95

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	$ 583.25	$ 136.05	$ 719.30	$ 47.20	$ 4.75	$ 51.95
1988						
JAN	$ 61.60	$ 13.50	$ 75.10	$ 1.30	$ .25	$ 1.55
FEB	$ 44.10	$ 6.80	$ 50.90	$ 3.20	$ .05	$ 3.25
MAR	$ 49.45	$ 15.15	$ 64.60	$ 1.55	$ .50	$ 2.05
APR	$ 57.85	$ 11.50	$ 69.35	$ 10.85	$ .80	$ 11.65
MAY	$ 76.80	$ 8.65	$ 85.45	$ 3.55	$ .05	$ 3.60
JUN	$ 135.50	$ 9.95	$ 145.45	$ .90	$ .10	$ 1.00
JUL	$ 55.20	$ 14.40	$ 69.60	$ 1.40	$ .25	$ 1.65
AUG	$ 75.85	$ 4.90	$ 80.75	$ 2.35	$ .40	$ 2.75
SEP (P)	$ 53.80	$ 10.50	$ 64.30	$ 2.15	$ .80	$ 2.95
9 MONTHS	$ 610.15	$ 95.35	$ 705.50	$ 27.25	$ 3.20	$ 30.45

P - Preliminary
NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

QUARTERLY AND YEARLY SHIPMENTS AND NET NEW ORDERS OF MACHINE TOOLS
(Dollar Figures in Thousands)
1982 to Date

	Cutting and Forming			Cutting			Forming		
	SHIPMENTS		NET	SHIPMENTS		NET	SHIPMENTS		NET
DATE	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS
1982-1	$1,154,200	$112,650	$ 506,800	$ 933,050	$ 71,750	$ 384,850	$ 221,150	$ 40,900	$ 121,950
2	1,008,450	96,600	382,650	810,650	75,350	274,750	197,800	21,250	107,900
3	783,400	107,200	279,950	640,450	89,750	183,450	142,950	17,450	96,500
4	658,350	89,600	328,350	510,600	59,300	221,400	147,750	30,300	106,950
Total	$3,604,400	$406,050	$1,497,750	$2,894,750	$296,150	$1,064,450	$ 709,650	$ 109,900	$ 433,300
1983-1	$ 487,450	$ 56,650	$ 314,850	$ 370,600	$ 40,800	$ 224,100	$ 116,850	$ 15,850	$ 90,750
2	469,650	58,300	399,100	357,500	49,300	269,300	112,150	9,000	129,800
3	357,050	42,900	468,150	252,350	32,200	322,200	104,700	10,700	145,950
4	530,900	57,150	514,050	391,050	49,600	336,050	139,850	7,550	178,000
Total	$1,845,050	$215,000	$1,696,150	$1,371,500	$171,900	$1,151,650	$ 473,550	$ 43,100	$ 544,500
1984-1	$ 449,500	$ 40,550	$ 600,450	$ 298,100	$ 25,100	$ 412,750	$ 151,400	$ 15,450	$ 187,700
2	572,300	50,700	764,400	401,800	28,250	499,200	170,500	22,450	265,200
3	568,850	41,850	800,200	401,550	24,300	493,000	167,300	17,550	307,200
4	695,200	60,150	750,750	505,050	45,000	510,850	190,150	15,150	239,900
Total	$2,285,850	$193,250	$2,915,800	$1,606,500	$122,650	$1,915,800	$ 679,350	$ 70,600	$1,000,000
1985-1	$ 531,700	$ 48,950	$ 728,250	$ 357,050	$ 37,150	$ 528,500	$ 174,650	$ 11,800	$ 199,750
2	586,050	37,700	641,400	385,000	27,450	475,700	201,050	10,250	165,700
3	654,650	58,250	558,450	443,050	35,950	404,750	211,600	22,300	153,700
4	772,800	108,850	600,000	557,150	93,200	444,150	215,650	15,650	155,850
Total	$2,545,200	$253,750	$2,528,100	$1,742,250	$193,750	$1,853,100	$ 802,950	$ 60,000	$ 675,000
1986-1	$ 597,300	$ 67,500	$ 615,750	$ 386,950	$ 55,200	$ 463,500	$ 210,350	$ 12,300	$ 152,250
2	751,000	64,100	600,600	569,350	49,500	434,650	181,650	14,600	165,950
3	549,350	64,200	459,650	418,700	49,500	344,050	130,650	14,700	115,600
4	680,850	76,650	449,300	515,300	51,400	302,050	165,550	25,250	147,250
Total	$2,578,500	$272,450	$2,125,300	$1,890,300	$205,600	$1,544,250	$ 688,200	$ 66,850	$ 581,050
1987-1	$ 476,800	$ 55,950	$ 463,700	$ 349,150	$ 38,050	$ 326,100	$ 127,650	$ 17,900	$ 137,600
2	614,100	71,300	521,150	442,600	46,300	339,300	171,500	25,000	181,850
3	556,650	66,300	487,850	397,750	43,350	324,550	158,900	22,950	163,300
4	676,100	93,350	646,100	487,000	49,950	461,500	189,100	43,400	184,600
Total	$2,323,650	$286,900	$2,118,800	$1,676,500	$177,650	$1,451,450	$ 647,150	$ 109,250	$ 667,350
1988-1	$ 516,500	$ 60,000	$ 850,000	$ 317,850	$ 35,300	$ 666,250	$ 198,650	$ 24,700	$ 183,750
2	551,150	74,400	960,500	339,350	40,900	676,500	211,800	33,500	284,000
3P	568,750	65,850	922,300	391,250	38,550	715,000	177,500	27,300	207,300
Total	$1,636,400	$200,250	$2,732,800	$1,048,450	$114,750	$2,057,750	$ 587,950	$ 85,500	$ 675,050

P - Preliminary

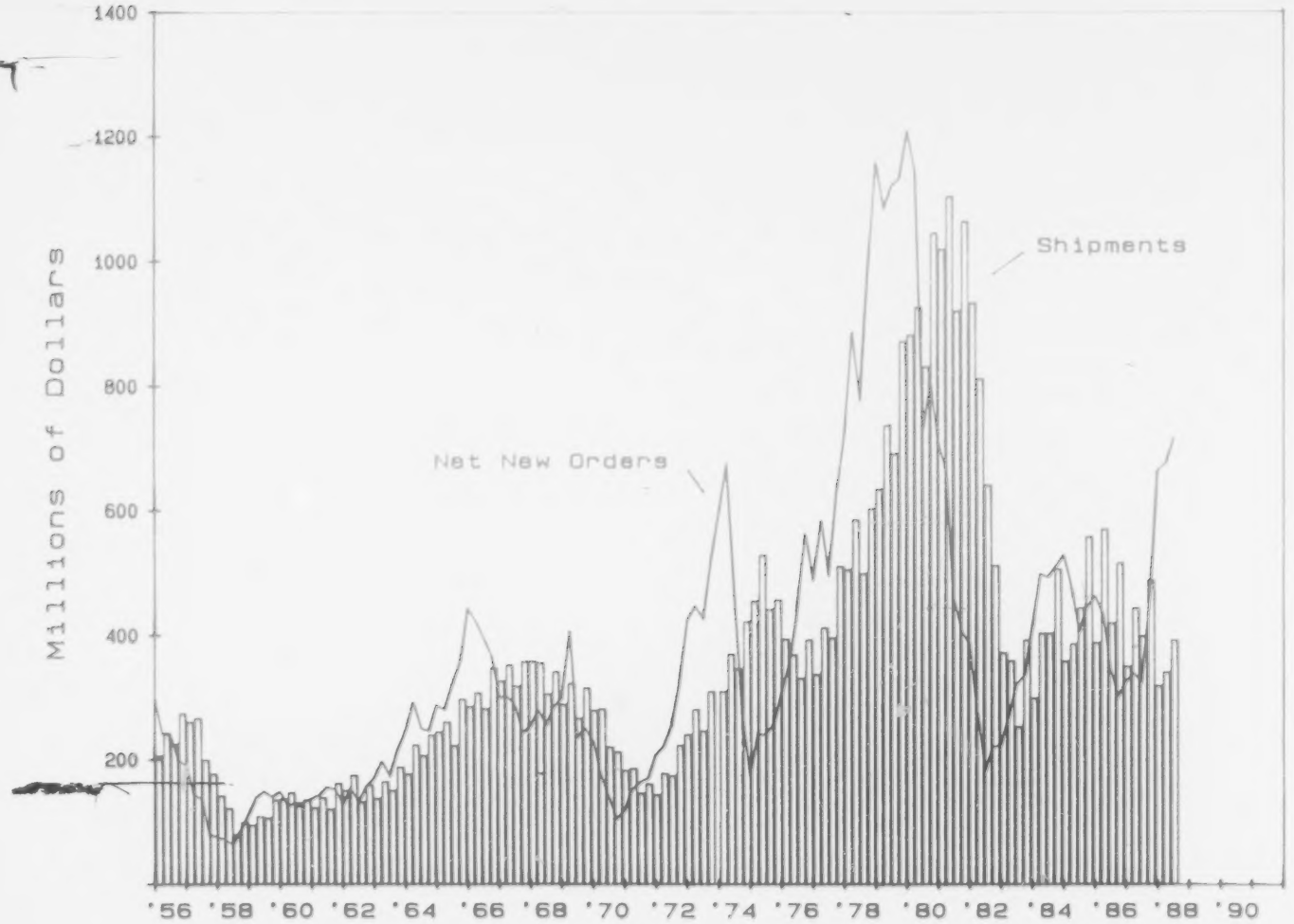
NOTE: These data series are available back to 1956. To obtain a copy of the tables for 1956 through 1988, contact: NMTBA Statistical Department, 7901 Westpark Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102-4269. Phone: 703:893-2900

Source: NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology

October 31, 1988

Total Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956:1 to 1988:3

Metal Cutting Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956: 1 to 1988: 3



Metal Forming Machine Tools
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956: 1 to 1988: 3